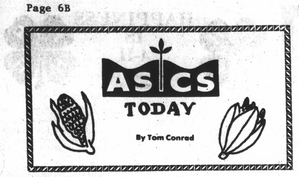

Virginia Fire-Cured Tobacco - Opening sales of the 1979 crop of Virginia fire-cured tobacco were held Tuesday, November 27, reports the Federal-State Market News Service. Higher grade prices and improved quality combined to raise the general average well above opening week last year. Volume was heavy and less tobacco was placed under loan.

Gross sales* (fire-cured only) **follow: Week Ending November 29, 1979: Market at Blackstone** - Pounds-271,129, Average-$108.38; Market in Farmville Pounds-272,813, Average-$121.27; Market in Lynchburg, Pounds-341,835, Average-$121.76; Total Pounds 885,777 Average $117.51. Week Ending November 30, 1978, Blackstone** Pounds-305,818, Average-$99.40, Farmville - Pounds 276,937, Average-$98.44; Lynchburg, Pounds-343,099, Average-$113.62; Total Pounds 925,854 and Average $104.38.**

The weekly average of $117.51 was up $13.13 per hundred from opening week last season. The first day average of $122.59 was a new record high for an opening day.

Grade Averages were above last year's in over 70 percent of the cases while just under 20 percent declined. Increases were centered on heavy and thin leaf grades and were $7 to $11 per hundred in most cases. Losses of chiefly $1 to $2 per hundred were noted on lower quality lugs and nondescript tobacco. Highest average was $199 paid for C1F 46 with N2 the lowest at $47 per hundred.

Quality showed a definite improvement over opening week in 1978. More offerings placed in heavy leaf grades with declines in lugs and nondescript. Percentage by groups were: heavy leaf 36; thin leaf 33; lugs 19; and nondescript 7 percent. The ratio of choice, fine and good quality grades was higher than a year ago with less fair and low quality sold. Medium brown color dominated sales with declines in mixed and green colors.

The Dark Tobacco Sales Cooperative received 63,968 pounds or 7.2 percent of gross sales opening week compared to 127,182 pounds or 13.7 percent a year ago. Support levels for 1979 are based on an average of 90.4 cents per pound-up 5.8 cents from last year's 84.6 level.

Production of Type 21 tobacco for 1979 was estimated at 5,750,000 pounds by the USDA Crop Reporting Board in their November release. Producers' sales in 1978 total 6,826,000 pounds. Total fire-cured harvest in the United States is expected to be 45,171,000 pounds. The 1979 acreage allotment for Type 21 was reduced 10 percent from 1978.

Marketing Regulations limit sales to 900,000 pounds per week, plus up to 5 percent for resales. Auctions are held three days each week (normally Tuesday-Thursday) with three sets of buyers. Markets will close for the holidays after sales on December 19 with a tentative reopening date of January 22, 1980.

*Gross pounds and averages for 1979 are preliminary and subject to revision.

*Blackstone's pre-holiday sales will be held in Kenbridge with after Christmas sales scheduled to be held in Blackstone.

USDA Announces Flue-Cured Marketing Quota, Sets Referendum - The 1980 flue-cured tobacco basic national marketing quota will be 1,095 million pounds, the same as for the 1979 crop, Ray Fitzgerald, Administrator of ASCS, announced recently.

Fitzgerald also announced flue-cured tobacco growers will vote Dec. 18 in a referendum conducted by the department to determine whether acreage-poundage marketing quotas and price support will continue in effect for the next three crops of this tobacco. Quotas and price support will be in effect for the 1980 flue-cured crop if two-thirds or more vote "yes."

Legislation provides for a flue-cured tobacco referendum within 30 days after the quota determinations in the last year of each three-year period for which marketing quotas are in effect. In a referendum held in 1976, 98.6 percent of the 139,982 flue-cured tobacco growers voting favored marketing quotas for the 1977, 1978 and 1979 crops.

The national marketing quota is based on estimated domestic use and exports of flue-cured tobacco during the marketing year July 1, 1980 through June 30, 1981, with a possible adjustment to maintain supplies, including reserves, at desired levels.

Fitzgerald said that the national acreage allotment will be set at 59 590,615 acres. Thus, individual farm acreage allotments and poundage quotas will be the same as the 1979 level except for undermarketings or overmarketings of 1979 farm quotas. It is expected that undermarketings will exceed overmarketings by 85 million pounds, making the 1980 effective quota about 1,180 million pounds, 115 million pounds above the 1979 effective quota.

Estimated marketings resulting from the 1980 quota are expected to be 1,120 million pounds, up 143 million pounds from the 1979 crop.

Alabama Baptist Church

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judae in the days of Herod the King, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem. St. Matt. 2 chap. 1 verse.

Pray service in charge was lead by Dec. James Moore, and Mrs. Alice Moore. Everyone joined in the service.

The regular preaching service was conducted by pastor Elliott. Matthew 2 Verse 2.

Theme: Where Is He That Were Born In Your Heart. A lovely message was delivered. The music was rendered by the Adult Choir.

We thank each and everyone for coming out during the year to make our service a success. Without God and you we couldn't have made it. May God bless each one of you. We welcome all the visitors from the different churches out of town and Deacon Bob Hunt from Mt. Hope Baptist Church in Baltimore, Maryland.

Don't forget our Christmas program will be held Sunday night at the Alabama Baptist Church for the sick and shut-in. Sponsored by Holiness Singers.

Guest groups: Gospel Quintet, Gospel Harmonettes, Men Choirs, Pamplin, Sis Christine Abbitt, Solo - Echoes of Glory.

Be looking forward to seeing you.

May God bless you. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mrs. Catherine Haskins

HIS BALLOON WAS RECOVERED - Mike Mann, a student at Appomattox Elementary School, sent up a balloon as part of a school project on March 15, 1979. He is shown holding a card he received Friday of last week from Marvin Breedlove of Henderson, North Carolina saying he had recovered Mike's balloon November 18th at 9 a.m. on the shore of Kerr Lake between Satterwhite's Point and Merkins Marina hanging in a holly tree. Mike is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Mann and the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Elliott Nash of Route 1, Appomattox.

Swine Industry Faces Smuggling Threat

Semen smuggling poses a real danger to the North American swine industry.

Gordon A. MacInnis, Virginia Tech Extension specialist in veterinary science, said there has been increased interest in swine semen, mostly from Europe, as some producers who engage in smuggling are looking for a competitive edge which may not exist.

MacInnis warned that those producers involved in smuggling may do irreparable harm to both their own swine operations and the industry as a whole.

North American swine are relatively disease free while the world swine industry is plagued by a number of serious diseases which are devastating to economical swine production.

Among the diseases with serious consequences which the United States and Canada have been able to avoid are African swine fever, hog cholera, foot and mouth disease and the vesicular diseases.

The faculty member in the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine said North American producers don't realize how fortunate they are as they have never seen the devastation produced by an outbreak of a disease like African swine fever.

Many of the diseases, which can be transmitted in semen, could have an extremely adverse effect on production. There is either no known effective vaccine for them or they are prohibitively expensive.

St. Anne's Episcopal Church To Have Bazaar

The women of St. Anne's Church will hold their annual bazaar on Friday, Dec. 7 beginning at 10 a.m. in the Church Parish Hall on Oakleigh Avenue. A variety of original and hand-made gifts will be on display, so plan to do your Christmas shopping at St. Anne's where you will find unusual items for all the folks on your Christmas list. A variety of baked goods, Brunswick stew, pickles, jams and jellies will be available and a dinner will be served beginning at 6 p.m. Following the dinner, an auction sale will be held beginning at 7:30 p.m. and many interesting pieces will be put on the auction block. Paintings and pictures, glass and china, household equipment (all new) plus some used and antique items from various estates. You may find just the thing you've been looking for, so come out for an evening of fun and fellowship.

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Appomattox Elementary School Menu

Thur., Dec. 6 - Chili-con-carnie w/beans, tomato & lettuce salad, hot rolls, yellow cake squares, sliced peaches, milk.

Fri., Dec. 7 - Sausage patties, hot rolls, green peas, french fries, applesauce, milk.

Mon., Dec. 10 - Sloppy Joe on bun, pork n' beans, coleslaw, pineapple cubes, milk.

Tues., Dec. 11 - Lasagna casserole, hot rolls, turnip greens, sliced peaches, milk.

Wed., Dec. 12 - Corn dogs, macaroni & cheese, green peas, pear cubes, milk.

Thurs., Dec. 13 - Spaghetti w/meat sauce, tomato & lettuce, hot rolls, applesauce, milk.

Fri., Dec. 14 - Chuckwagon sandwich, blackeyed peas, chilled tomatoes, apple cobbler, milk.

Mon., Dec. 17 - Vegetable beef soup w/tomatoes, lunchmeat and cheese sandwich, peach pie, milk.

Tues., Dec. 18 - Hot dog on bun, coleslaw, great northern beans, applesauce, milk.

Wed., Dec. 19 - Oven fried chicken, sliced bread, green peas, whipped potatoes, sliced peaches, milk.

Thurs., Dec. 20 - Hamburger on bun, lima beans, french fries, purple plums, milk.

Fri., Dec. 21 - Cheese pizza w/beef, tomato & lettuce salad, buttered carrots, applesauce, milk.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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Teresa Taylor Celebrates Birthday

Teresa Taylor, front row, celebrated her 12th birthday recently with a party at A. J. Skateworld. Joining Teresa for the party were, second row, from left, Monica Stratton and Bernadine Garrett; third row, left to right, Robin LeGrand, Darlene Howard, Lisa Coleman, Cristy Garrett, Evelyn Garrett and Kenny Richardson; and on back row, left to right, Mike Marshall and Demnton Everton.

Steve Martin Celebrated Birthday

Steve Martin celebrated his 7th birthday recently with a party at A. J. Skateworld. Those attending and shown in photo were front row, left to right, Tori Banton and Matt Foster; second row, left to right, "Steve", Robin Martin and Tony Drinkard; third row, left to right, Jennifer Schmutz, Stacey Moore and Curtis Moore; and on back row, from left, Kay Jordan, Traci Schmutz, Kris Martin and Le Moore.

Consumer's Corner

Preparation For Winter Emergencies

By Glen H. Mitchell
Extension Specialist, Consumer Education
Va. Tech College of Home Economics

The car may be winterized and there may be plenty of wood for the fireplace, but don't relax yet. A blizzard or other snow emergency brings with it financial problems as well as difficulties with transportation and power supplies.

After serious storms, when commerce and traffic have slowed to a crawl, people may have trouble cashing checks, purchasing supplies, and conducting other financial transactions. Consumers who increase their self-reliance and develop personal identities in the business community can reduce such problems.

Checking accounts, bank credit cards, and check cashing cards will all help consumers establish personal identities so that alternative ways of paying for goods and services will be available to them.

In addition, it is advisable to trade with and get to know local merchants, especially hibitation owners and grocers. When supplies are scarce, many businesses take care of regular customers first. Consumers should also have family or individual physicians who will keep medical records on file and respond to emergency calls.

Just as important as developing business contacts in the community at large is becoming acquainted with neighbors, who can help with information, physical assistance, and even small loans in emergency situations.

Consumers should also take steps to improve financial self-reliance in case of a snow emergency. Individuals should keep small amounts of money in cash or travelers' checks in the house to cover necessary purchases should check cashing be impossible. In addition, it is wise to store food staples that will sustain the family for at least three or four days. Canned soups and milk, dried legumes, and canned goods have long shelf lives and require minimal storage space.

Some nonperishable foods, such as dried fruits and hard candies, should also be stored in the car, along with extra warm clothing, so that consumers caught away from home in a storm will not need to make unplanned purchases.

These preparations will protect consumers not only in snow emergencies but in floods, power outages, and serious illnesses.

Concord Church To Present Christmas Cantata

The Choir of New Concord Presbyterian Church cordially invites the public to their presentation of "Come to the Manger", a Christmas Cantata by Joe E. Parks.

The choir, under the direction of Mrs. Susan F. Evans and accompanied by Mrs. Karen M. Thompson, will present the cantata December 9, 1979 at 7:30 p.m. Soloist featured will be Miss Kathy Ballagh and Mr. Joel Barringer, with narration by Mr. Mike Torrence. A nursery will be provided.

We hope you will join us as we present this old story in a new way, and accept the invitation of the angels to "Come to the Manger!"

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Plants Need Loving Care

Presiding over the blooming of an indoor plant gives home horticulturist a great sense of satisfaction.

"It need not be a difficult task to have a plant bloom," said Diane Relf, Virginia Tech Extension specialist in home horticulture. "There are a number of house plants that, with a little tender care, can be coaxed into bloom." The right amount of light is the most frequent problem.

African violets have long been the favorite flowering plant of window-sill gardeners and those who use florescent light for their gardens.

They do not have a dormant period. If cultural conditions are satisfactory, they continue to grow and bloom year round. The most common problem in their failure to bloom is insufficient light. Move them to a window where there is brighter light, Ms. Relf recommended.

Other excellent flowering house plants include the episcia, which has metallic-toned and delicately-veined foliage; gloxinia with fringed white flowers and purple spots; and acajour, which has bright red flowers. These do not require as much light as African violets.

The miniature sinningia, and streptocarpus, and cape primrose do well in a semi-shaded window or under lights.

Abutilon, or flowering maple, which has bell-like blooms of orange, pink, white, red or salmon, needs a sunny window to do well.

Aphelandra, or zebra plant, with shiny deep green leaves prominently veined white and a spectacular yellow inflorescence, requires filtered or diffused sunlight.

Many common patio plants will continue to grow and bloom indoors if given sufficient light and nutrients, but the specialist cautioned the home horticulturist to avoid bringing in pests when the plants are moved indoors.

Some flowering plants from florists usually are not the type which can be kept as permanent houseplants, the faculty member in Virginia Tech's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences said. They were raised in cool humid greenhouse and do not take kindly to the hot, dry conditions in homes.

Such plants as poinsettias, Easter lilies, cyclamen and cineraria are best considered long-lasting cut flowers," Ms. Relf said.

Eating-Out Trend to Continue

American families probably will continue to spend more money on meals away from home during the 1980s.

Last year, according to U. S. Department of Agriculture figures, the total value of food consumed in this country was $250 billion, or about $1,144 per person. Of this amount, approximately $400 person-or one of every three dollars spent for food went for food eaten outside the home.

Virginia Tech Extension specialists predict that the rise of incomes and increases in the number of working wives will continue to push the amount of food money spent on meals away from home upward.

Although the food service industry has grown rapidly since the early 1960s, it is expected to slow its expansion during the next decade. Multi-unit firms, however, are expected to continue to capture a larger share of the market.

The expected growth in away-from-home eating will have an impact on the demand for various agricultural products and the manner in which they are processed, packaged and marketed.

Buy Certified Fescue

Education, government and private enterprise have combined to help assure the consumer that he will get quality seed when tall fescue is purchased.

Robert L. Harrison, Virginia Tech Extension specialist in seeds, said the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Virginia Seedsmen Association and the Virginia Crop Improvement Association have initiated a program to aid tall fescue seed purchasers in identifying the better lots of seed.

The Tech faculty member in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences observed that Kentucky 31 currently is the only recommended variety of tall fescue.

A green label, entitled Virginia-Maryland Recommended, is being affixed to each bag that meets the following criteria.

-The seed must be certified.

-It must be of the recommended variety.

-The seed must be tested by the Virginia Department of Agriculture Laboratory and meet the standards of purity and germination. This also would mean that it is free of objectionable weeds.

-The seed must be packaged under the supervision of a representative of the Virginia Crop Improvement Association.

He noted that the new program, begun this fall, will aid the purchaser in getting quality seed.

New Industries Have Costs, Benefits

There are benefits and costs when a new industry locates in a rural community.

In most cases, Virginia Tech Extension economists said, community leaders tend to overestimate industrial benefits while underestimating additional public expenditures needed to serve the industry and its employees.

Industrialization has been cited by proponents as a means of improving employment and income as well as a way to reduce a community's tax burden by broadening the local tax base.

This is true to some extent.

However, net community benefits may be lower than expected because some of the payroll may leave the community through communters and local residents who spend outside the community.

In addition, local government often is unable to convert economic growth into revenues. There also may be concessions to new industry.

Industrialization's effect on reducing taxes is minimal, they said.

Communities should consider carefully the costs and benefits of growth. Not all growth is beneficial, they concluded.

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